

U.S. Application No. 09/630,435 – Filed: August 1, 2000

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1 - 12 (Cancelled)

13. (New) An image processing method comprising:

providing rasterized color separated contone gray level image data (RIP Data);
changing the RIP Data in accordance with an operators adjustments; and
subjecting the changed RIP Data to a halftone process to generate halftone rendered gray level data.

14. (New) A method according to claim 13 and including subjecting the changed RIP Data to first and second halftone processes and then blending the respective outputs from the first and second halftone processes.

15. (New) A method according claim 13 and including the step of modifying the output of the blending operation into a binary image file and subjecting the binary image file to an edge enhancement process to reduce jaggedness in the image.

16. (New) A method according to claim 13 wherein changed RIP Data is recorded on a recording surface as a color separation image, and plural color separation images are recorded and eventually transferred to a receiver sheet in superposed registered relationship to form a process color image.

17. (New) A method of altering the appearance of an input digital image when printed comprising the steps of:

rasterizing the input digital image into rasterized image data (RID);
separating the RID into separated rasterized contone gray level image data; and
altering the separated rasterized contone gray level image data in accordance with an operators adjustments.

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18. (New) A method according to claim 17, wherein the RID data is color separated contone gray level image data and further comprising subjecting the altered rasterized image data to a halftone process to generate halftone rendered gray level data.

19. (New) A method according to claim 17 and including subjecting the altered separated rasterized contone gray level image data to first and second halftone processes and then blending the respective outputs from the first and second halftone processes.

20. (New) The method according claim 19 and including the step of modifying the output of the blending operation into a binary image file and subjecting the binary image file to an edge enhancement process to reduce jaggedness in the image.

21. (New) The method according to claim 17 wherein altered separated rasterized contone gray level image data is recorded on a recording surface as a color separation image, and plural color separation images are recorded and eventually transferred to a receiver sheet in superposed registered relationship to form a process color image.

22. (New) A method of altering the appearance of an input digital image when printed comprising the steps of:

rasterizing the input digital image into rasterized CMYK image data (RID);

separating the RID into separated CMYK image data; and

altering the separated CMYK image data in accordance with an operators adjustments in order to alter the appearance of the image when printed.

23. (New) A method according to claim 22, further comprising subjecting the altered separated CMYK image data to a halftone process to generate halftone rendered gray level data.

24. (New) A method according to claim 22 and including subjecting the altered separated CMYK image data to first and second halftone processes and then blending the respective outputs from the first and second halftone processes.

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25. (New) The method according claim 24 and including the step of modifying the output of the blending operation into a binary image file and subjecting the binary image file to an edge enhancement process to reduce jaggedness in the image.

26. (New) The method according to claim 22 wherein altered separated CMYK image data is recorded on a recording surface as a color separation image, and plural color separation images are recorded and eventually transferred to a receiver sheet in superposed registered relationship to form a process color image.

27. (New) An apparatus for processing a digital image comprising:

a raster image processor (RIP) to provide rasterized color separated contone gray level image data (RIP Data);

an image processor for altering the RIP Data in accordance with an operators adjustments and

subjecting the altered RIP Data to a halftone process to generate halftone rendered gray level data.

28. (New) An apparatus according to claim 27, wherein the image processor subjects the altered RIP Data to first and second halftone processes and then blends the respective outputs from the first and second halftone processes.

29. (New) An apparatus according claim 27 wherein the image processor modifies the output of the blending operation into a binary image file and subjects the binary image file to an edge enhancement process to reduce jaggedness in the image.

30. (New) An apparatus according to claim 27 wherein the altered RIP Data is recorded on a recording surface as a color separation image, and plural color separation images are recorded and eventually transferred to a receiver sheet in superposed registered relationship to form a process color image.

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31. (New) An apparatus for altering the appearance of an input digital image when printed comprising:

a raster image processor (RIP) to provide rasterized color separated contone gray level image data (RIP Data); and

an image processor for altering the RID in accordance with an operators adjustments.

32. (New) An apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the RIP Data is color separated contone gray level image data and wherein the image processor subjects the altered RIP Data to a halftone process to generate halftone rendered gray level data.

33. (New) An apparatus according to claim 31 and wherein the image processor subjects the altered RIP Data to first and second halftone processes and then blends the respective outputs from the first and second halftone processes.

34. (New) An apparatus according claim 33 wherein the image processor modifies the output of the blending operation into a binary image file and subjects the binary image file to an edge enhancement process to reduce jaggedness in the image.

35. (New) An apparatus according to claim 33 wherein altered RIP Data is recorded on a recording surface as a color separation image, and plural color separation images are recorded and eventually transferred to a receiver sheet in superposed registered relationship to form a process color image.

36. (New) An apparatus for altering the appearance of an input digital image when printed comprising:

a raster image processor (RIP) to provide rasterized CMYK image data (RIP Data); and

an image processor for separating the RIP Data into separated CMYK image data and altering the separated CMYK image data in accordance with an operators adjustments.

37. (New) An apparatus according to claim 36, wherein the image processor subjects the altered RIP Data to a halftone process to generate halftone rendered gray level data.

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38. (New) An apparatus according to claim 36 and wherein the image processor subjects the separated CMYK image data to first and second halftone processes and then blends the respective outputs from the first and second halftone processes.

39. (New) An apparatus according claim 38 wherein the image processor modifies the output of the blending operation into a binary image file and subjects the binary image file to an edge enhancement process to reduce jaggedness in the image.